

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANAA 02145 090757Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 VO-03 SCA-01 SCS-03

INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /047 W
----- 075832

R 080856Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TOCRUESRA/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 1321

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2936

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANAA 2145

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OEXC, SA

SUBJ: ALLEGED SAUDI DENIAL OF TRANSIT TO AMCITS

REF: STATE 217639, SANAA 2128

1. SANAA REFTEL WAS IN ERROR. SAUDI CUSTOMS OFFICIAL REFUSED TO ISSUE TRANSIT VISAS TO AMCITS AT DHAHRAN AIRPORT, BUT DID NOT, REPEAT NOT, REFUSE TO ACCEPT TRANSIT VISAS.

2. DETAILS AS FOLLOWS: FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR ANROLD GREEN, WIFE, AND 3 CHILDREN ATTEMPTED TO ENTER SAUDI ARABIA ABOARD SAUDIA FLIGHT OCTOBER 27. FLIGHT, SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE JIDDA FROM ROME, WAS DIVERTED TO DHAHRAN. GREENS HAD BEEN ADVISED BY SAUDIA OFFICE IN ROME THAT SINCE THEY SCHEDULED TO PROCEED TO SANAA WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ARRIVAL IN JIDDA, TRANSIT VISAS COULD BE OBTAINED AT JIDDA AIRPORT. DHAHRAN CUSTOMS OFFICIAL REFUSED ISSUE TRANSIT VISAS, UNLESS DHAHRAN PORT OF EXIT AS WELL AS ENTRY. SAUDIA CUSTOMER REP. HEATEDLY ARGUED WITH CUSTOMS OFFICIAL THAT THIS WAS RIDICULOUS, SINCE GREEN NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LAST MINUTE DIVERSION OF PLANE. CUSTOMS OFFICIAL REFUSED TO RELENT AND EVEN DENIED GREENS ACCESS TO TRANSIT LOUNGE.

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3. ON FOLLOWING DAY GREENS PROCEEDED TO BAHRAIN, WHERE

THEY OBTAINED TRANSIT VISAS WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

4. DR. GREEN IS FAIRLY FLUENT IN ARABIC. HE CERTAIN THAT
SEVERAL NON-AMERICAN PASSENGERS ON SAME FLIGHT OBTAINED
TRANSIT VISAS AT DHAHRAN AIRPORT.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 NOV 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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